

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 and 25-27 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Patterson at the interview held June 2, 2004, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-22 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Lashway (U.S. Patent No. 3,986,822) in view of Kimura et al. (European Patent No. 0 842 913). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

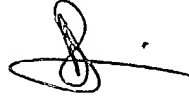
As agreed during the personal interview, neither Lashway nor Kimura, either alone or in combination, disclose, suggest or render obvious a pyrolytic boron nitride double container having an inner container and an outer container, wherein at least the inner container and the outer container have transmissivities with respect to light having a wave number of 2600 cm^{-1} to 6500 cm^{-1} for the entire length of a wall of the inner container and the outer container, as recited in independent claim 1. Accordingly, a combination of Lashway and Kimura would not result in a pyrolytic boron nitride double container, as claimed in Applicants' invention.

Thus, because it would not have been obvious to combine Lashway and Kimura to arrive at the claimed invention, independent claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentable over a combination of Lashway and Kimura. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-22 and 25-27 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 18, 2004

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